Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Agency (APEDA) is facilitating certification of the Organic Produce for export purpose.

Micro irrigation in Andhra Pradesh

1193. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total acres of land proposed to be brought under micro irrigation during the Tenth Five Year Plan in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) the total acres of land, so far, brought under the scheme in the State;

(c) whether Government would increase the financial assistance from the present 50 per cent to 75 per cent of the cost of the system looking at the pathetic situation in which farming is done and the farming community is surviving there;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor? .

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) An area of 2.48 lakh hectare is proposed to be brought under micro-irrigation by the end of Tenth Five Year Plan in Andhra Pradesh.

(b) So far, an area of 1.63 lakh hectare has been brought under micro irrigation in the State.

(c) There is no proposal to increase the financial assistance from 50% to 70% of the cost of the system.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Government has recently increased the financial assistance from the existing level of 25 percent of 50 percent of the cost of the system by launching the Centrally Sponsored Scheme on "Micro irrigation" during Jan '2006.